

I have grave concerns about our ability to maintain a true democracy when broadcasting companies are allowed to abuse their considerable power to sway public opinion. Sinclair Broadcasting presents a clear example of this. Their recent decision to compel their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

It does not serve the public interest for a powerful entity to grind their own political ax using the public airwaves. This action by Sinclair is clearly in violation of the laws requiring that they serve the public interest.

Clearly, when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them.

What good are laws about serving the public interest when the very institutions that are set up to enforce those laws don't pay any attention when they are broken? Please act before it is too late to save America and the democracy that our young men and women are dying for even today.

Thank you.